

A new **RULER**. A new **WORLD**. A new **DIRECTION!**

THE SCORCHED

image

27
MAR

DIGITAL
EDITION

LAYMAN

SEGOVIA

NUGENT



Van Rensselaer
2023
Nugent

A new **RULER**. A new **WORLD**. A new **DIRECTION!**

^{THE} SCORCHED



LAYMAN
SEGOVIA
NUGENT



THE SCORCHED



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TODD McFARLANE ADDITIONAL SCRIPT

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SPAWN CREATED BY
TODD McFARLANE

PREVIOUSLY IN THE SCORCHED

Nyx has ascended the Throne of Hell and banished Spawn and the Scorched to Earth. Jessica and the team now find themselves powerless.



A FEW MONTHS EARLIER,
THIS IS WHAT WOULD HAVE
HAPPENED IF ASSASSINS
CAME AFTER JESSICA
PRIEST AND MARC ROSEN.

HER SUIT WOULD
HAVE INSTINCTIVELY
PROTECTED HER
FROM THE BULLETS,
TRANSFORMING
JESSICA INTO
SHE-SPAWN, WHILE
ROSEN BECAME
MEDIEVAL SPAWN...

...AND THE ASSASSINS MIGHT
HAVE LIVED LONG ENOUGH
TO GIVE UP THE IDENTITY OF
THEIR EMPLOYER.

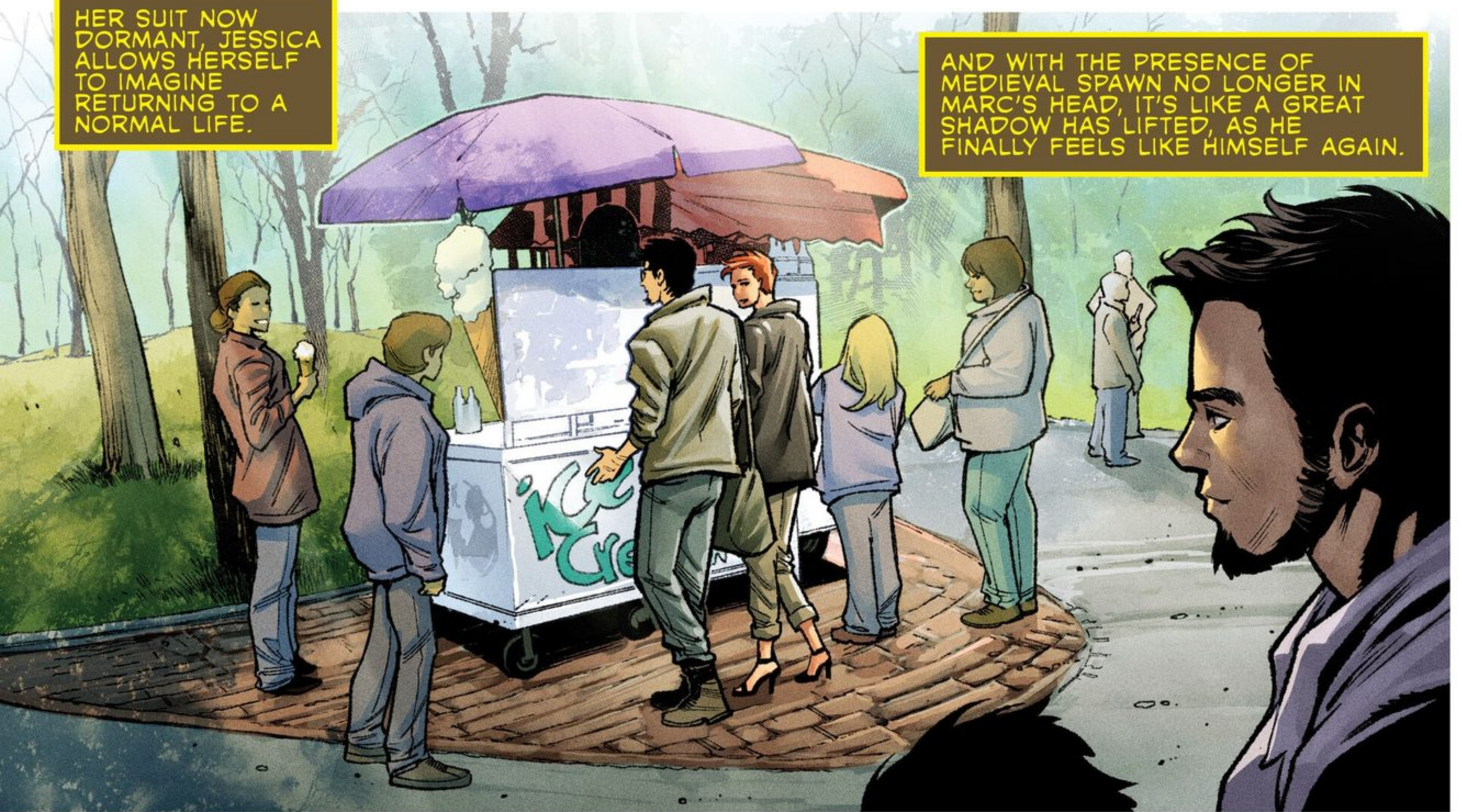
BUT THIS DIDN'T
HAPPEN, BECAUSE
SEVERAL MONTHS
AGO, SHE-SPAWN
AND MEDIEVAL LOST
THEIR POWERS.

THE SPREAD OF 'DEAD ZONES' ACROSS EARTH, HAS NOW RENDERED EVERYONE, WITH ABILITIES ORIGINATING FROM HEAVEN OR HELL--POWERLESS.*



*SEE SPAWN #350--THOMAS.

HER SUIT NOW DORMANT, JESSICA ALLOWS HERSELF TO IMAGINE RETURNING TO A NORMAL LIFE.

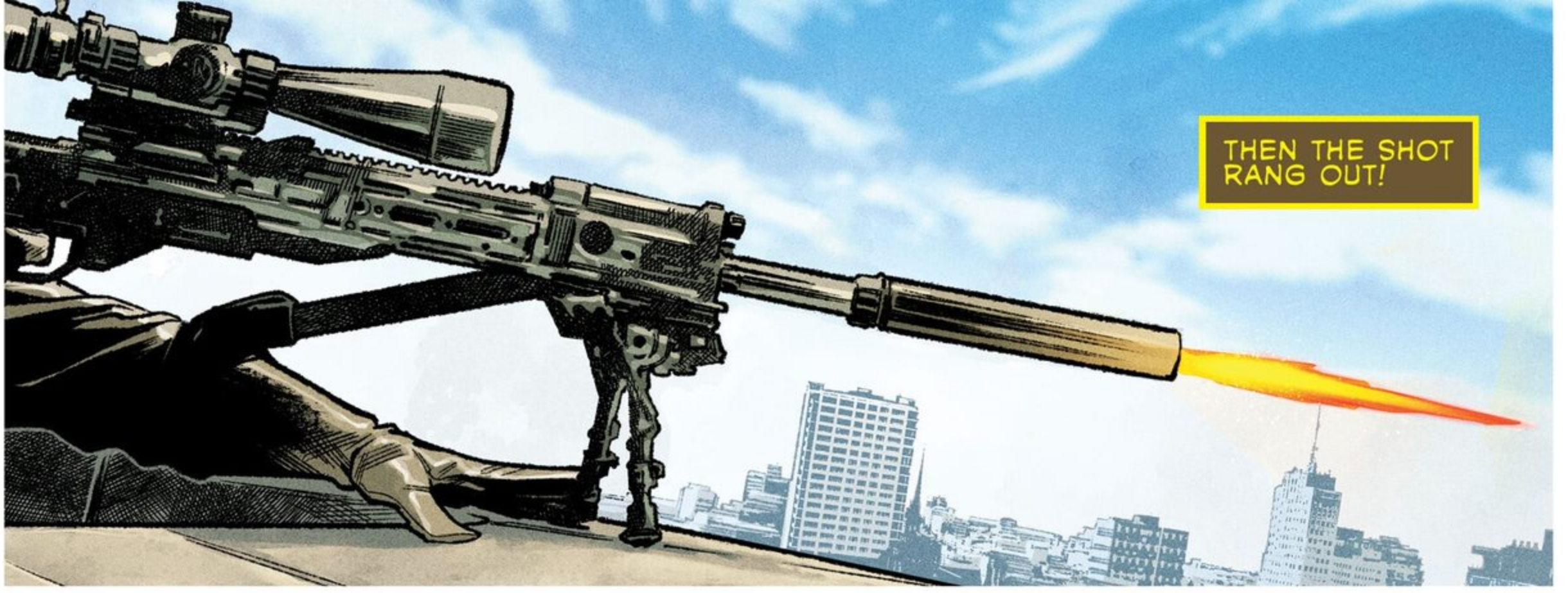


AND WITH THE PRESENCE OF MEDIEVAL SPAWN NO LONGER IN MARC'S HEAD, IT'S LIKE A GREAT SHADOW HAS LIFTED, AS HE FINALLY FEELS LIKE HIMSELF AGAIN.

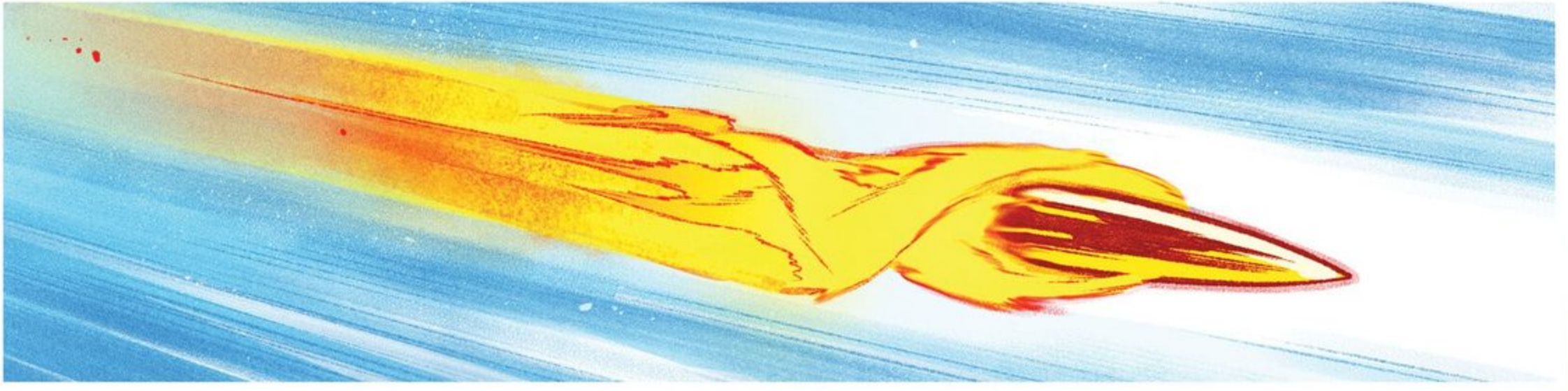
THAT MORNING THE TWO GOT COFFEE TOGETHER AND WALKED IN THE PARK, AN UNIMAGINABLE FREEDOM FROM THEIR PREVIOUS LIVES AS HELLSPAUNS.



THEIR LIVES WERE GOOD.



THEN THE SHOT
RANG OUT!



AND JESSICA
PRIEST'S COSTUME
WASN'T THERE TO
PROTECT HER.

ACTING ON HABIT, MARC
REACHED FOR THE HELMET
HE PREVIOUSLY USED TO
SUMMON MEDIEVAL SPAWN.



BUT MEDIEVAL
WASN'T THERE
EITHER.



THOUGH HIS
HELMET DID
MANAGE TO SAVE
MARC'S LIFE.



LEAVING
THEM WITH
NO CHOICE
BUT TO...



RUN FOR IT!

THEIR CHASE WAS LONG BUT THEY FINALLY LOST THEIR PURSUERS IN AN ALLEY.

NOT FAR FROM THE PLACE SPAWN ONCE CALLED RAT CITY.



JESSICA LOST CONSCIOUSNESS WHILE MARC STAYED HIDDEN. UNTIL HE WAS SURE THEIR PURSUERS WERE OFF THEIR TRAIL.

BUT TWO THINGS WERE CLEAR...

ONE: EVERYTHING WAS DIFFERENT NOW.

TWO: THE SCORCHED WERE BEING HUNTED.



WEEKS LATER...

...THE SCORCHED
WERE STILL
BEING HUNTED.

TODAY'S TARGET:
DANIEL KILGORE.
A.K.A. HAUNT.

HE USED TO BE
A PRIEST. HIS
BROTHER, KURT,
USED TO BE AN
OPERATIVE FOR
THE COVERT
INTELLIGENCE
ORGANIZATION
KNOWN AS
'THE AGENCY'.

BUT THEN HIS
BROTHER GOT
HIMSELF KILLED
AND SOMEHOW
MERGED HIS
SPIRIT WITH HIS
BROTHER'S.

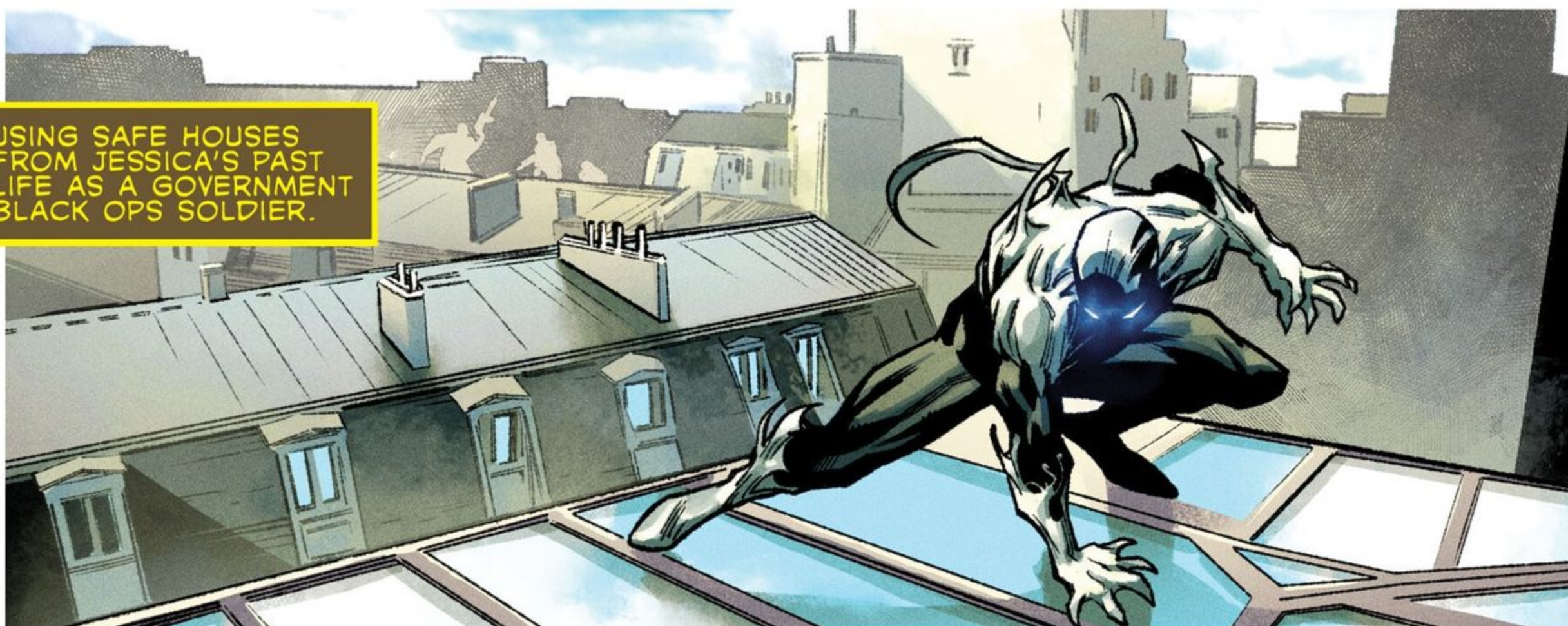
MAKING THEM BOTH
LOOSE ENDS. BUT THE
AGENCY'S BOSS DOESN'T
TOLERATE LOOSE ENDS.





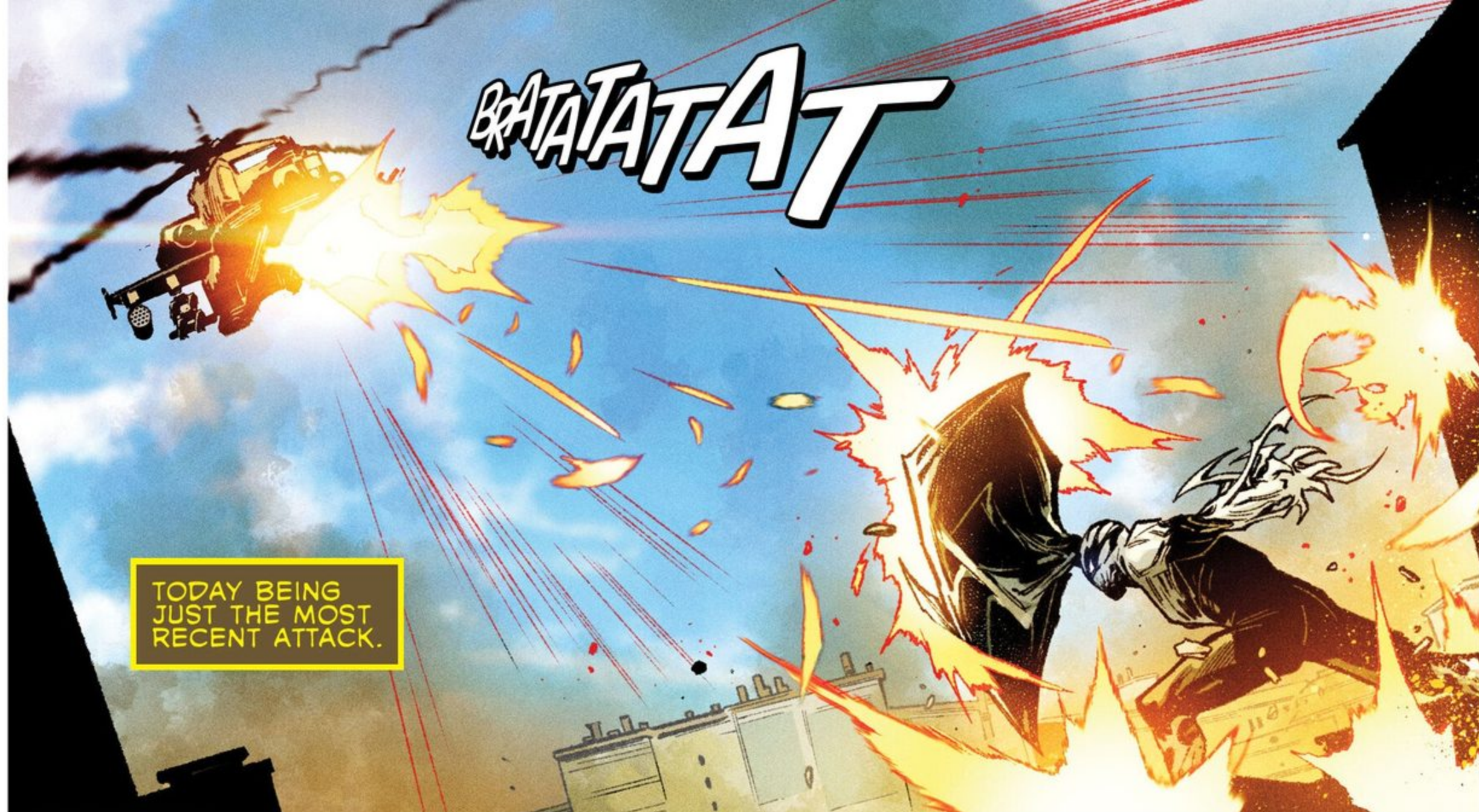
SO, EVER SINCE,
THE SCORCHED,
HAVE BEEN ON
THE MOVE.

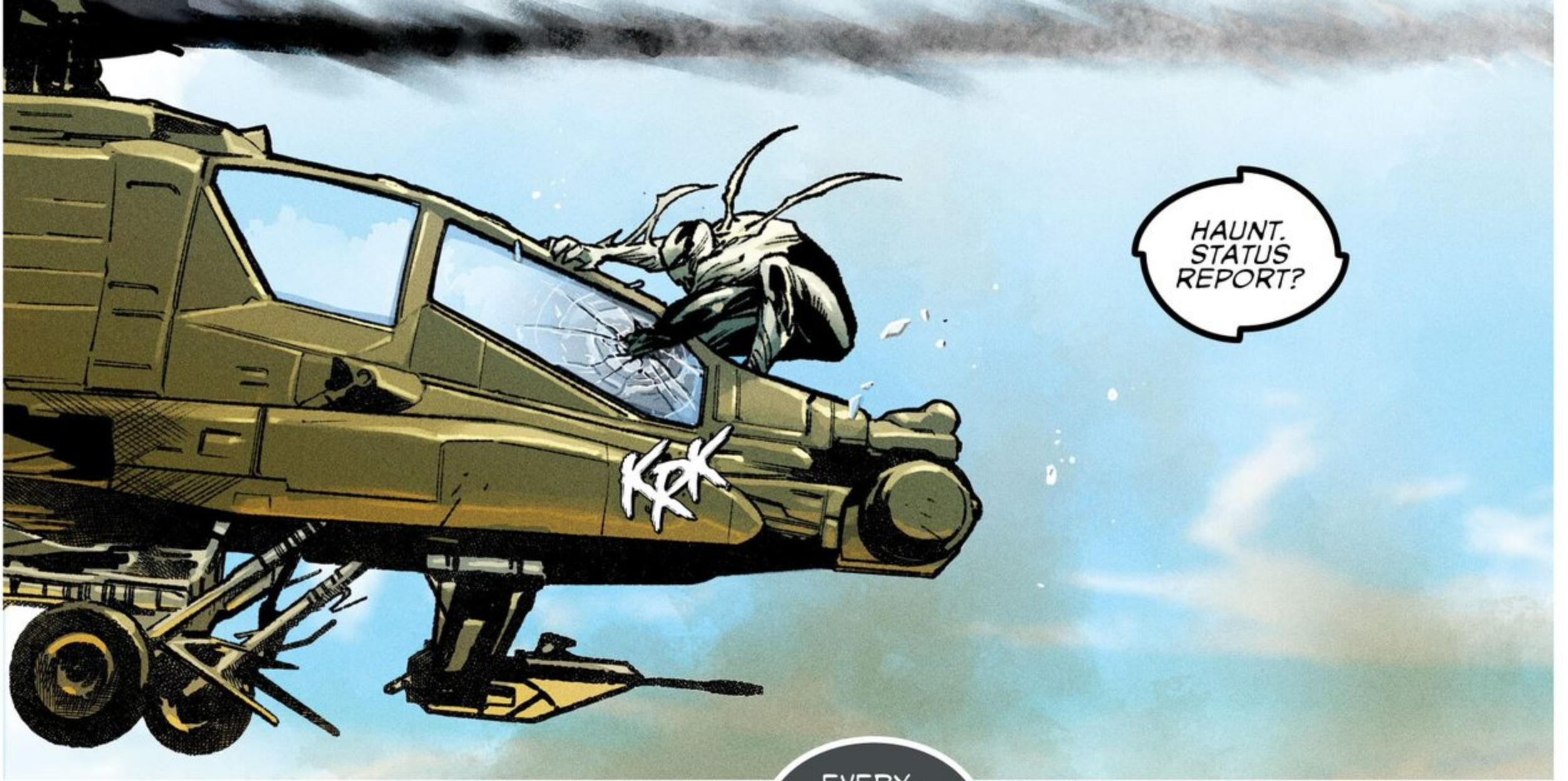
USING SAFE HOUSES
FROM JESSICA'S PAST
LIFE AS A GOVERNMENT
BLACK OPS SOLDIER.



WHEN SHE WAS
UNDER THE
COMMAND OF
JASON WYNN.

"TARGET
IN OUR
SIGHTS."

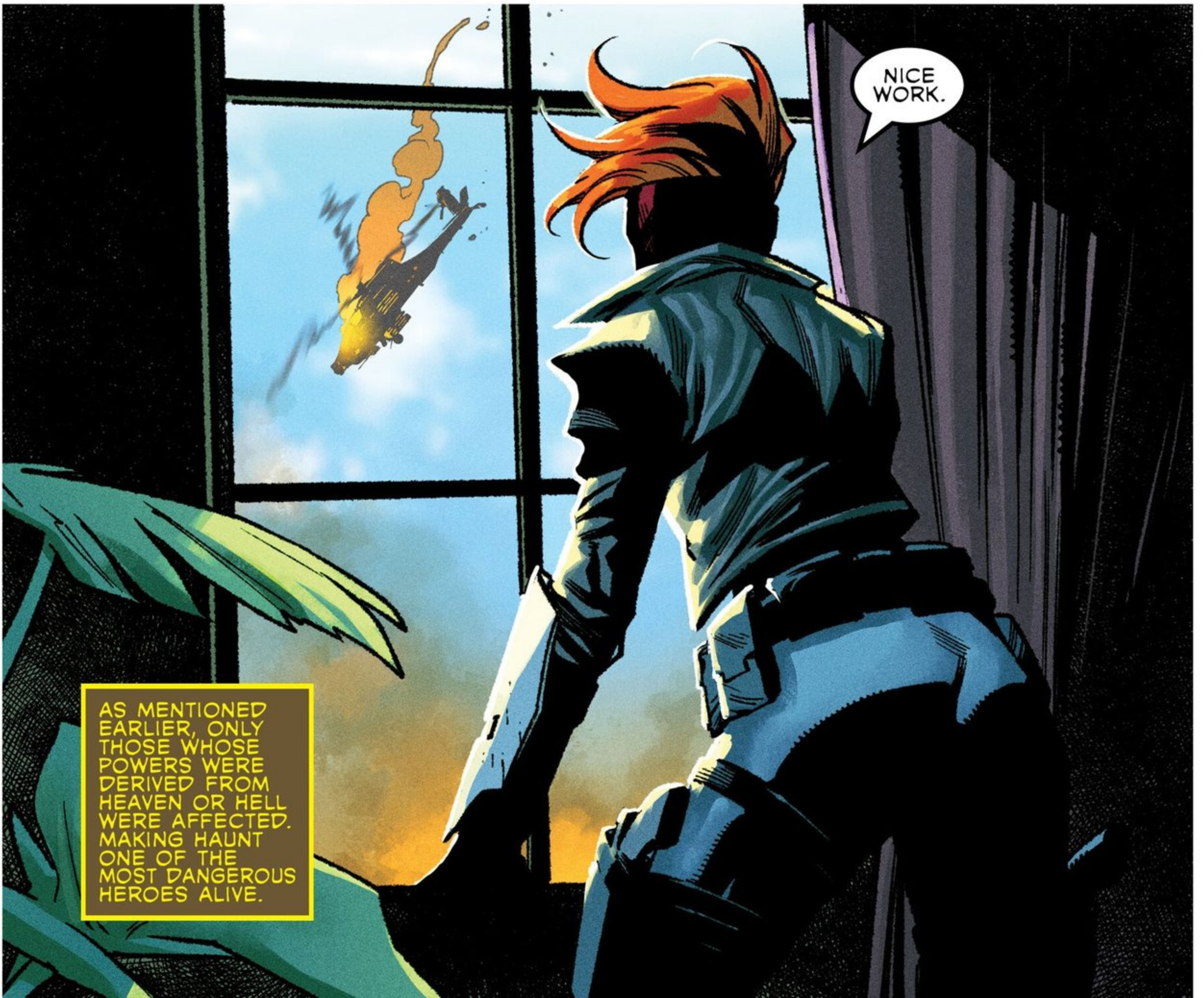




HAUNT.
STATUS
REPORT?



EVERY-
THING'S
UNDER
CONTROL,



NICE
WORK.

AS MENTIONED
EARLIER, ONLY
THOSE WHOSE
POWERS WERE
DERIVED FROM
HEAVEN OR HELL
WERE AFFECTED.
MAKING HAUNT
ONE OF THE
MOST DANGEROUS
HEROES ALIVE.





I
TOLD YOU,
WE'D TRY TO
FIND OUT WHAT'S
HAPPENED TO
MEDIEVAL

BUT
WE NEED TO
STAY ALIVE TO
DO THAT.



BECAUSE
SOMEONE'S
MAKING THEIR
PLAY WHILE WE'RE
ALL SCRAMBLING,
WE NEED TO FIND
OUT WHO
THAT IS.

FOR
NOW, SEND
THE DRONES, I
WANT TO SEE WHAT'S
HAPPENED TO
HAUNT.

SHE'LL FIND OUT HE WAS
TELLING THE TRUTH WHEN
HE SAID EVERYTHING WAS
UNDER CONTROL.

THOUGH, THEY'VE
NOW ALL BEEN
COMPROMISED.





BUT THAT WAS THE PLAN. LEAVE A TRAIL FOR THEIR ENEMIES TO FOLLOW, THEN DRAW THEM IN CLOSE--TO AMBUSH THEM.



SCORCHED COULD THEN START DOING THEIR OWN 'HUNTING'.

THEY'RE UP.



MAKE THE CALL.

BY WHATEVER MEANS NECESSARY.



REDEEMER, GIMME A SITREP.



AND WHAT'S WORSE, IS
THEIR UNKNOWN ENEMY ISN'T
OPPOSED TO SENDING HUMAN
AGENTS TO THEIR SLAUGHTER.
CREATING ANOTHER LAYER...

TARGETS
ARE
DOWN.

BUT
MORE ARE
COMING.



...IN MASKING
THE TRUE
IDENTITY OF
THEIR ENEMY.



BRITATATAT



BECAUSE EVERY
MOMENT SCORCHED
SPENDS ON NON-
ESSENTIAL THREATS
IS AN ADVANTAGE TO
THE OTHER SIDE.



OUR HEROES
NEED TO STOP
WASTING
THEIR TIME.





A SHORT
TIME
LATER.

PLEASE
TELL ME YOU
LEFT ONE
ALIVE.

ONE,
YES.

UNTIL
HE BLEEDS
OUT, AT
LEAST.

YOU HAVE
A BOSS--DON'T
TELL ME YOU
DON'T.

WHO
IS IT?



THERE'S
MORE THAN
ONE.



WHO
ARE
THEY?

THE...
AGENCY.



THE
AGENCY
DISBANDED.
I USED TO
BE A PART
OF IT.



IT'S BEEN
REACTIVATED.
WITH A NEW
DIRECTOR.



WHO'S THE DIRECTOR?



BIO
SCAN 84%
COMPLETE

VIEWING FROM A SAFE DISTANCE IS AN AGENCY OPERATIVE, CHARLOTTE LIN, ONE OF THE RISING STARS IN THIS NEW INCARNATION OF THE AGENCY.



GOOD. THIS ONE'S ABOUT TO TALK.

THIS OPERATION WAS HER BRAINCHILD.

SHE EQUIPPED EACH STRIKE TEAM WITH CONTACT LENS BIO-READER CAMERAS AND SUB-DERMAL CHIPS FOR G.P.S. TRACKING.

BIO
SCANS ON ALL
FOUR TARGETS,
COMPLETE.



DO IT.

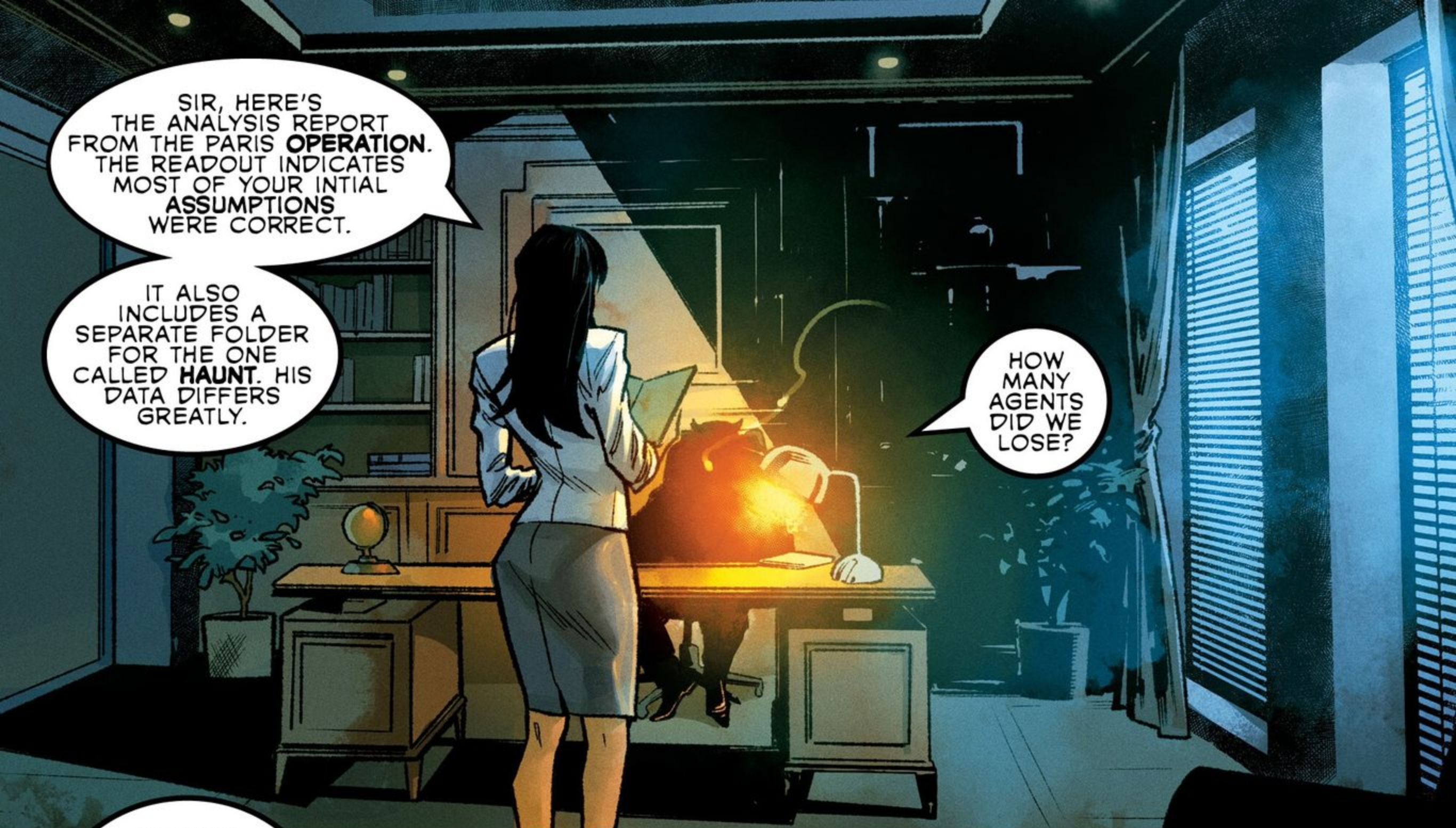
I WANT
HIS
NAME.

"DETONATE."



AGENT LIN,
MEANWHILE,
GOT EXACTLY
WHAT SHE
NEEDED. DATA.

THE KIND
THAT WILL
FAST-TRACK
HER CAREER
WITHIN THE
AGENCY, BY
IMPRESSING
HER NEW
BOSS.



SIR, HERE'S
THE ANALYSIS REPORT
FROM THE PARIS **OPERATION**.
THE READOUT INDICATES
MOST OF YOUR INITIAL
ASSUMPTIONS
WERE CORRECT.

IT ALSO
INCLUDES A
SEPARATE FOLDER
FOR THE ONE
CALLED **HAUNT**. HIS
DATA DIFFERS
GREATLY.

HOW
MANY
AGENTS
DID WE
LOSE?

ENOUGH
TO **GET** YOU
THE INFORMATION
YOU REQUIRED.
THE STATUS AND
CAPABILITIES OF
THE **SCORCHED**
HAVE BEEN
CONFIRMED.

EXCELLENT
WORK,
AGENT LIN.

DO
YOU MIND IF
I CALL YOU
CHARLOTTE?

OF
COURSE, MR.
DIRECTOR.

NO NEED
TO STAND ON
FORMALITY,
CHARLOTTE.

I
SUSPECT WE
WILL BE SEEING
MORE OF EACH
OTHER IN THE
FUTURE.





I LOOK
FORWARD
TO IT, MR.
WYNN.

please...

NONE
OF THAT "MR.
WYNN" STUFF,
EITHER.

YOU
CAN CALL ME
JASON.



SPAWNING GROUND

PRESENTS: MAILBAG

Hi Todd and Company!

Just wanted to say thank you for creating an amazing Spawn Universe as well as keeping all of your titles more affordable than most, which makes it easy for us to keep all the Spawn titles on our pull sheets week after week. Can't wait to see what plays out in Spawn #350 and how it carries over into Scorched, Gunslinger, and King Spawn. Thanks for all you've done for the comic community!

P.S. Attached is my homage to Todd's famous Batman cover art ...with a Gunslinger spin.

-Ryan P

Ryan, thanks for sending in your homage to one of Todd's most famous covers! This is great work. There is a lot that is going to happen now that the events of Spawn #350 have come to pass. A New Ruler on the Throne of Hell may not go as well as Spawn hoped. That will also mean that the Scorched will be dealing with problems created by those events as well!

-THOMAS



Hello, my name is Gavin. I'm 15 years old, and I live in Edmonton, Alberta. I'm also a comic book fanatic, and I've been loving Spawn for over a year now. I really had to fight my parents to let me read it, but it was worth it. Spawn is one of my favourite characters and been made by one of my favourite creators, Todd has been my role model for so long now, and I'd

like to be like him when I'm older. It's my dream to one day be a comic book artist, it's a goal I work towards every day. Don't really have a reason to write in other than to say I really love the work that's done related to Spawn and I hope it never stops. Todd and Brett are doing so well on Gunslinger, and it's one of my favourite books, so keep it up fellas!

Here's some of the spawn art I've made over the years.



Gavin-

Gavin, thanks for the letter and thanks for sending in some cool art! I really dig the Overt-Kill piece you did. It makes me wonder how Overt-Kill would react to being on a team like the Scorched. Seeing Medieval and Overt-Kill on the same battlefield would be pretty cool. I think I need to give John Layman a call!

-THOMAS



Do you have a question or comment about Spawn? If so, e-mail it to us at: spawningground@mcfarlane.com

NEED MORE SPAWN'S ? UNIVERSE

DON'T MISS THESE ONGOING TITLES!

SPAWN

KING
SPAWN®

THE
SCORCHED

GUNSLINGER



SPAWN #351
MARCH 2024



KING SPAWN #32
MARCH 2024



GUNSLINGER #30
APRIL 2024

OUR BETRAYALS WRITE
THEMSELVES IN OUR FLESH...

WHAT WILL SAVE MAIKA?



BLOOD · LOYALTY · LOVE

MONSTRESSTM

THE POSSESSED

A NEW STORY ARC BEGINS IN ISSUE #49
FEBRUARY 2024

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SANA TAKEDA

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THE SCORCHED 28



APRIL 2024



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